



Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Sanctuary Superintendent's Report

Volume 6, Number 4



A report for the Sanctuary Advisory Council and Sanctuary Constituents

September 2008

ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1980, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or sanctuary) consists of an area off the coast of California of over 1,100 square nautical miles adjacent to the following islands and offshore rocks: San Miguel Island, Santa Cruz Island, Santa Rosa Island, Anacapa Island, Santa Barbara Island, Richardson Rock, and Castle Rock, extending seaward to a distance of six nautical miles. The islands vary in distance from 12 to 40 nautical miles offshore from Santa Barbara and Ventura counties in southern California.

A fertile combination of warm and cool currents in this area results in a great variety of plants and animals including kelp forests, fish and invertebrates, pinnipeds, cetaceans and sea birds. The sanctuary also has a wealth of maritime heritage resources including Chumash Native American artifacts and over 100 historic shipwrecks. Human uses in the area include commercial and recreational fishing, marine wildlife viewing, boating, diving, kayaking, maritime shipping, nearby offshore oil and gas development, research and monitoring, and numerous educational activities.

MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

Staff from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) headquarters and West Coast Region are currently conducting internal agency clearance review of responses to comments received on the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary's (CINMS or sanctuary) Draft Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Supplemental DEIS. NOAA will publish the responses to public comments in a Final Environmental Impact Statement and Final Rule, which sanctuary and ONMS staff are currently preparing. ONMS headquarters and West Coast Region staff are also currently conducting internal clearance review of the sanctuary's Final Management Plan, prepared by CINMS staff in large part based on public comments regarding the Draft Management Plan. Information about the management plan revision process, including several downloadable documents, is available on the "Management Plan" section of the sanctuary's web site (<http://channelislands.noaa.gov>).

Window on the Sanctuary

A new sanctuary research vessel, a 41-foot catamaran, is currently being tested at the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.
Photo: Rebecca Young, NOAA



CONTENTS:

Management Plan Review	1
Resource Protection	2
Sanctuary Advisory Council	2
Vessel Operations	2
Research & Monitoring.....	3
Education, Volunteer, & Outreach.....	6
MERITO	9
Channel Islands Naturalist Corps....	9
Spotlight on Volunteers	12
Maritime Heritage Program	12
Stories from the Past	14
Web Site	15
NOAA and ONMS News.....	15
Three-month Sanctuary Calendar	16



RESOURCE PROTECTION

Search for Entangled Humpback Whale in the Sanctuary

On August 7, CINMS staff coordinated with the Southwest Region of NOAA Fisheries' Office of Protected Resources and the Santa Barbara Marine Mammal Center (SBMMC) to assist in locating a humpback whale reported to be entangled in line and floats. A local whale watching vessel spotted the entangled whale on August 6 in the Santa Barbara Channel. Sanctuary staff flew aboard a contract aircraft and conducted a targeted survey in the region north of Santa Rosa Island, where the whale had last been sighted. During the aerial survey, sanctuary staff were in radio contact with SBMMC staff aboard their vessel. Although neither the aircraft nor vessel found the humpback whale, they saw a large number of blue whales in the general vicinity. The aerial search covered approximately 100 square miles, and a total of 25 blue whales were sighted.

CINMS Vessel Captain Aids Mariner in Distress – Sailing Vessel Abandoned in Sanctuary

During the week of August 18, Terrence Shinn, Captain of the Sanctuary Research Vessel (R/V) *Shearwater*, came to the aid of a distressed and injured mariner near East Point off Santa Rosa Island. After consulting with the U.S. Coast Guard, Captain Shinn took the injured captain aboard the R/V *Shearwater* and safely anchored the sailing vessel at a protected location on the south side of Santa Cruz Island. Captain Shinn then transported the injured individual back to the mainland so he could seek medical care. Unfortunately, all attempts to subsequently reach this individual have been unsuccessful, and it is now apparent that the sailing vessel, which is in poor condition, was abandoned within the sanctuary. Coast Guard officers responded by removing the vessel's fuel tank, while sanctuary staff pumped water out of the vessel's hull. Sanctuary staff then contracted Vessel Assist, who towed the sailing vessel back to port in Ventura. NOAA Office for Law Enforcement staff are attempting to reach the last known legal owner to secure authorization for hauling out the vessel and, if need be, arranging for its disposal.

Grounded Sailing Vessel Successfully Removed from Sanctuary

On August 8, the sailing vessel *Storm Chaser* grounded and sunk in the Gull Island Marine Reserve within the

sanctuary. The crew abandoned ship and the U.S. Coast Guard safely transported them to Ventura. The first attempt at towing the vessel back to port was unsuccessful, leaving the wreck sunken at a depth of approximately 36 feet. Vessel Assist floated the vessel to the surface, and successfully towed it back to port. There was no reported discharge of the estimated 18 gallons of diesel fuel on board.

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Advisory Council Addresses Ocean Acidification

At the Sanctuary Advisory Council's (Advisory Council) September 19th public meeting in Santa Barbara, Dr. Richard Feely from the NOAA Office of Ocean and Atmospheric Research's Pacific Marine Environmental Lab will provide a presentation on ocean acidification. The Advisory Council will also learn about ocean acidification from Dr. Gretchen Hofmann, professor at the University of California Santa Barbara's (UCSB) Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology department. At this same meeting, the Advisory Council will be asked to adopt an ocean acidification report prepared by their Conservation Working Group. The 42-page report, which was developed through more than a year of literature research and consultation with experts, provides a thorough explanation of ocean acidification. The report also includes a series of recommendations on steps NOAA can take at the sanctuary to focus research, monitoring and education on ocean acidification, and to exhibit overall leadership on this important issue. A pre-adoption version of the report is on line at <http://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html>.

VESSEL OPERATIONS

New Small Research Vessel at Sanctuary

On July 23, CINMS took delivery of a new 41-foot composite hull catamaran. NOAA custom designed the vessel, built in Gulf Port, Mississippi by Seemann's Composites. The vessel came equipped with a sophisticated Zeus drive system that allows for superior handling and station keeping capabilities. The vessel has a top speed of 27 knots and berthing for three. At cruise speed the vessel burns approximately one gallon per nautical mile, very efficient considering its size. It was primarily designed as a dive platform, but the fuel

efficiency and speed of the vessel will allow it to support a variety of sanctuary missions. CINMS will temporarily port the vessel in Channel Islands Harbor.



The new research vessel at Scorpion Anchorage, Santa Cruz Island.
Photo: Robert Schwemmer.

RESEARCH & MONITORING

Research and Monitoring Activities

Sanctuary Aerial Monitoring of Whales Continues over Shipping Lanes

CINMS staff continue to work with agency partners to monitor whales in the Santa Barbara Channel (Channel). With support from the U.S. Coast Guard, CINMS staff conducted an aerial survey on August 19, covering the shipping lanes in the Channel. Staff did not observe whales within the shipping lanes on this particular survey. CINMS staff are conducting aerial surveys on a weekly basis with support from the U.S. Coast Guard, the California Department of Fish and Game, and contract aircraft. In addition, daily sightings are continuing to be recorded by Channel Islands Naturalist Corps (CINC) volunteers working aboard a local whale watch vessel operating out of Santa Barbara Harbor. The sightings are being used to monitor populations of large cetaceans, and for the creation of map products that CINMS staff are sharing with NOAA Fisheries, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Marine Exchange of Southern California, and whale researchers. Blue whale sightings have been decreasing but as of late August were still being reported in the vicinity of the shipping lanes north of Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz islands. CINMS staff will conduct aerial surveys of the shipping

lanes through the remainder of the blue whale season, which often extends through October.

Marine Mammal Acoustics Research

Researchers from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) continued a partnership project with CINMS to study marine acoustics in the Santa Barbara Channel and sanctuary. This research will help managers understand the noise from high volume shipping in the Channel and marine mammal vocalizations. From July 22-24, Megan McKenna (SIO PhD student and Sanctuary Intern) retrieved and deployed acoustic equipment in and around the sanctuary using the R/V *Shearwater* as a research platform. The team recovered a High-frequency Acoustic Recording Package (HARP), and deployed two new HARPs. These devices record ambient noise over a several month period. The researchers also used a hydrophone array to record marine mammal vocalizations while surveying for marine mammals from the vessel. The issue of shipping and whales has become a priority after several fatal ship strikes in 2007. The sanctuary and partners are working to understand the issue and possible management actions.

Reef Check Volunteer SCUBA Surveys

From July 15-16, eight Reef Check California (RCCA) volunteer divers conducted SCUBA surveys at four Channel Islands sites from R/V *Shearwater*. The mission of RCCA is to “educate, train, and engage all ocean users in the collection of scientifically sound data describing California’s nearshore rocky reefs to help inform management decisions and create an informed constituency supportive of science-based management.” Trained and certified volunteers collect data on key ecosystem attributes inside and outside of MPAs, and complete RCCA surveys. The RCCA Science Advisory Team has peer reviewed the methodology, which the California Department of Fish and Game sanctions as being scientifically valid and useful in improving marine resource management in California. The methodology is designed to be compatible with subtidal data collected by Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) and Cooperative Research Agenda for Nearshore Ecosystems (CRANE) surveys, with site surveys including fish, invertebrate, algae, and substrate data collection. Future surveys from R/V *Shearwater* are scheduled for October.

Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) Volunteer SCUBA Surveys

From August 9-10, nine divers conducted surveys at San Miguel and Santa Rosa islands from the vessel *Truth*. The divers counted fish, invertebrates, and algae using the roving diver survey technique at five sites. Sites were chosen to assist in the evaluation of the Channel Islands marine protected area (MPA) network, with locations inside marine reserves, and reference sites at comparable locations outside the reserves. To date, volunteers have completed over 1,700 REEF surveys in CINMS. For this cruise, CINMS provided financial assistance to charter the vessel and Dani Lipski (Sanctuary Research Specialist) and Carl Gwinn (NOAA diver and REEF volunteer) provided a fish identification seminar before the cruise. Highlights of the cruise included spectacular visibility at Judith Rock and observations of myriad marine life, including an unusual coloration of a black and yellow or gopher rockfish (see photo below).



REEF divers on board *Truth* on their way back across the very windy Channel after two days of SCUBA surveys.
Photo: Carl Gwinn.

Remotely Operated Vehicle Cruise Completed at Channel Islands

In August, scientists from the California Department of Fish and Game and Marine Applied Research and Exploration completed several weeks of research cruises in the sanctuary from the R/V *Shearwater*. This is the fifth consecutive year of the project that aims to determine changes in finfish abundance in response to the establishment of the Channel Islands MPA network in state waters in 2003. Scientists employ a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) to identify fish and record abundance, size, and habitat type at ten sites (five pairs

of sites inside and outside marine reserves). The ROV is equipped with two video cameras, which enables the team to conduct video surveys beyond the depths of SCUBA divers. Scientists analyze the video to determine the abundance of species of recreational and commercial importance, and habitat type. Species and abundances observed are mapped with habitat type to provide a detailed, geo-referenced record of the area. Comparisons between the reserve and reference site pairings are used to evaluate MPA effectiveness over time. The work contributes to the marine reserve monitoring effort, which seeks to characterize changes in the ecosystem as a result of MPA network implementation.



An unusually colored rockfish at East End Pinnacles, Santa Rosa Island, later determined by Dr. Milton Love to be a xanthic/melanistic black-and-yellow or gopher rockfish.
Photo: Carl Gwinn

Eelgrass Surveys at Channel Islands

From August 26-29, scientists completed surveys of eelgrass beds at the Channel Islands. Jessie Altstatt (Santa Barbara Channelkeeper Science Director) led a team that included CINMS staff, agency and university partners, and volunteers, in mapping the location and extent of eelgrass and recording abundance of associated fauna at Anacapa, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa islands. Eelgrass beds are an essential habitat for fish and invertebrates, acting as a nursery habitat for some fish of ecological, recreational, and commercial importance. Eelgrass beds have experienced changes over time at the islands, including disappearance of historically lush beds and subsequent restoration by Channelkeeper at

Frenchy's Cove, Anacapa Island. The habitat is currently threatened by anchoring and other bottom disturbance. Mapping the eelgrass beds will help inform management of this sensitive habitat.



Kelp bass and black surf perch in a restored eelgrass bed at Frenchy's Cove, Anacapa Island. Insets: cancer crab, and octopus in eelgrass at Santa Rosa Island. Photos: Jessie Altstatt

Citizen Science

Blue and Humpback Whale Photo-ID

Channel Islands Naturalist Corps (CINC) volunteers continue to collect photo-ID data on blue and humpback whales on board the *Condor Express* and Island Packers' vessels. The data and images support Cascadia Research Collective's long-term population and abundance studies of blue and humpback whales in the Santa Barbara



CINC volunteer photo-ID image of an entangled humpback whale spotted on August 26, 2008. Photo: CINMS

Channel. John Calambokidis (Cascadia Research Collective founder) and Josh Kaye-Carr (CINC's lead volunteer supporting the ID program) train CINC volunteers to conduct whale photo-ID. Recently, CINC volunteer photo-ID images of tagged blue whales were submitted to help researchers from Oregon State University. In addition, images of an entangled humpback whale were sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service.

State of California Harmful Algal Bloom Study

CINC volunteers continue to conduct plankton tows on board the R/V *Shearwater* as part of a statewide study on harmful algal blooms. The tows are conducted in cooperation with Plumes and Blooms research cruises scheduled throughout the year. The California Department of Public Health's Marine Biotxin Monitoring Program monthly reports can be found on the following web page for viewing or downloading:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/environhealth/water/Pages/Shellfish.aspx>

Anacapa Island Larval Settlement Study

Several CINC volunteers continue to assist with a benthic larval settlement study in conjunction with Channel Islands National Park (CINP or park) and UCSB. They collect samples two times per month at Anacapa Island with transportation on board the National Park Service vessel *Sea Ranger*.

Marine Mammal Sightings Reports

CINC volunteers continue to enter marine mammal sightings data from the Santa Barbara Channel into the Marine Mammal Sightings Database:

<http://www.cisanctuary.org/mammals/>. Over 9,000 reports have been entered over the past six years, representing over 18 species of marine mammals and thousands of individual animals. This data will also be integrated into the Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN), which enables researchers to monitor the sanctuary effectively by integrating the existing monitoring programs and identifying gaps in information. SIMoN serves to make the monitoring data available to managers, decision makers, the research community, and the general public. In addition, data collected by CINC volunteers will be used to track blue whale sightings as part of the *Prevention and Emergency Response Plan to Reduce Ship Strikes on Blue Whales and Other Large Cetaceans in the Santa Barbara Channel*.

For more information on the CINC please see p. 9.

Meetings

ONMS Annual Research Coordinators' Meeting

From July 14-17, Steve Katz (Sanctuary Research Coordinator), and Dani Lipski attended the ONMS Annual Research Coordinators' meeting at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News, Virginia. ONMS research staff from around the country met to discuss research outreach, science needs, condition reports, partnerships and collaborations within NOAA, the small boat program, and the NOAA diving program, among other topics. Following up on discussions at the meeting, CINMS staff will work on several projects, including finalizing a site science needs assessment, completing work on the sanctuary condition report, and coordinating with other West Coast national marine sanctuaries' regional science staff. A highlight of the meeting was visiting the vessel *Proteus* (behind meeting participants in the picture below), and discussing with the vessel designers and owners its research mission capabilities and potential modifications.



Research Coordinators' Meeting participants in Norfolk, Virginia pose with the vessel *Proteus*. Photo: Dani Lipski.

EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER, & OUTREACH

Special Events

Sanctuary Staff Participate in the BIG SWIM

On September 13, Julie Bursek (Sanctuary Education Coordinator) joined other ONMS staff and swimmers with the Santa Barbara Channel Swimming Association in the 2008 Big Swim. Participants swam or kayaked in teams from Santa Cruz Island across the Santa Barbara Channel to Goleta Beach. All swimmers were required to raise a minimum of \$500, with funds raised benefitting the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation in support of ocean conservation at the Channel Islands.

2008 From Shore To Sea Lecture Series

The monthly "From Shore to Sea" public lectures for July featured Jan Timbrook (Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Curator of Ethnography). Timbrook spoke about Chumash Ethnobotany. Chumash people have used plants for food, medicine, clothing, tools and utensils, religious paraphernalia, and more. Timbrook has spent nearly 30 years of research to become one of the top experts in Chumash studies. Her talk helped her audience to have a greater understanding of the complex interrelationships between the first people of our region and the local environment.

The August lectures featured a talk by Paul Collins and Michelle Berman (Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Vertebrate Zoologists). Collins and Berman presented their investigations of several blue whale deaths caused by ship strikes that occurred in or near the CINMS in the fall of 2007. The deaths of four blue whales and one blue whale fetus was an unusually high number for a single year—there were only five blue whale mortalities reported off the entire coast of California between 1980 and 1987. Collins and Berman explained how they diagnosed the cause of death using collected tissue samples and measurements from the stranded blue whales. They also described their

You can watch the monthly From Shore to Sea Lectures on Public Access Television!

Channel 15 in Ventura: <http://www.capstv.org>

Channel 21 in Santa Barbara:

http://www.sbchannels.tv/khxc/index.php?app=ccp0&ns=display&ref=21_schedule

examination of a blue whale fetus on San Miguel Island, believed to be the first fetus examined since the whaling era.

The sanctuary, park, and Santa Barbara Maritime Museum jointly sponsor the "From Shore to Sea" lecture series in an effort to further the understanding of science and history of the Channel Islands and surrounding waters. The programs are free and open to the public. The lectures take place at 7:00 p.m. on one Tuesday and Wednesday per month, with Tuesday lectures at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum's Munger Theatre, and Wednesday lectures at the Channel Islands National Park Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center. For upcoming lectures please refer to the sanctuary calendar on p. 16, or visit the sanctuary's From Shore to Sea web page: channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/shoretosea.html.

Products

Information Kiosks

The first "ONE NOAA" information kiosk in the form of two touchscreen units has been delivered to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. These kiosks will be unveiled during the Aquarium's NOAA West Day on November 15, 2008. Shauna Bingham (Sanctuary Volunteer Program and Outreach Coordinator) and Amy Cale (Sanctuary Web Developer) met with Ron Gird (NOAA National Weather Service Outreach Specialist) to discuss partnership possibilities for future kiosk applications. On August 26, Bingham and Cale also met with National Weather Service staff from the Oxnard / Los Angeles for a kiosk tour at the CINMS southern office.

Workshops and Trainings

Sanctuary Staff Train Los Angeles Unified School District Teachers on Monitoring Protocols

On August 4, Julie Bursek coordinated a Long Term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students (LiMPETS) program workshop and field training for 12 middle school teachers from the Los Angeles Unified School District. Bursek provided an overview of the LiMPETS program, introduced teachers to the web resources available through the limpetsmonitoring.org website, and provided field training on sand beach monitoring protocols at nearby Playa del Rey Beach. The Centers for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence (COSEE)-West and Marina Del

Rey Middle School hosted the workshop. Teachers from Marina Del Rey middle school will be conducting sand beach monitoring with their students each week during the school year.

Sanctuary Educators Lead International Communications and Tourism Management Capacity Building Workshop in Costa Rica

From September 6-17, Laura Francis (Sanctuary Education Coordinator) and Rocío Lozano de Knowlton (Sanctuary Bilingual Education & Outreach Specialist) coordinated and presented at *The Seascape Approach to Managing the Eastern Tropical Pacific, Management Capacity Building Workshop* in Las Baulas National Park, Costa Rica. Forty participants, including managers, researchers, tourism representatives and educators from MPAs throughout the eastern tropical Pacific, including the countries of Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador and Colombia participated in the workshop. The workshop provided an opportunity to integrate research and communications programs, and move the individual sites towards functioning as a single management unit across the entire seascape. For the first five days there were two concurrent workshops, one for educators and one for researchers to move towards a coordinated approach for their respective disciplines. The last three days brought researchers together with communicators, managers and tourism representatives to work together to move information gathered through research and monitoring programs out to communities and the public so that it becomes a knowledge base to inform, educate and build stewardship for the entire seascape.

Educational Grants

U.S. Representative Lois Capps Announces CINMS B-WET Awards

On September 3, the ONMS California Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) program and CINMS hosted a public event to mark the presentation of \$374,000 to support environmental education programs in the Santa Barbara Channel watershed. The Honorable Lois Capps presented awards to the 2008 grant recipients:

- Art From Scrap, "Creek Kids Flows to the Ocean Research and Service Learning Project"



- Channel Islands Marine Resource Institute, "Strengthening Marine and Watershed Education in Multicultural Audiences of the SB Channel Region"
- Oak Grove School, "Watershed Education, Restoration and Stewardship"
- SB Museum of Natural History, "Channel WATCH (Watershed Activities for Teaching Coastal Health)"
- The Regents of the U. of C., Agriculture and Natural Resources, "Research and Education for Students and Teachers supporting the Ormond Beach Restoration (RESTOR) Project"
- UCSB, "Teacher Enrichment Adventure in Watershed Education and Training."
- Ventura County Office of Education, "Channel Islands Live"

Three students from Blackstock School in Oxnard participated in the ceremony and provided testimonial about their experiences in a B-WET sponsored educational program called "Channel Islands Live!" California B-WET provides funds to environmentally based education organizations to provide students, teachers, and communities throughout the Santa Barbara Channel watershed with meaningful watershed educational experiences. Through competitive grants, the B-WET program has the opportunity to bring the environment into every classroom, and every child out into the environment in a meaningful way.

Meetings

Educators Make Progress on Planning for the Outreach Center for Teaching Ocean Science (OCTOS) Exhibits
During August 2008, Laura Francis and Scott Simon (UCSB Marine Science Institute, or MSI, Educator) created a life size mock up of the proposed virtual kelp forest exhibit for OCTOS at the request of Thinc exhibit designers. OCTOS is a planned, joint sanctuary/UCSB MSI marine education center on the UCSB campus that is proposed to open sometime during 2010. Francis and Simon created a seafloor and vertical kelp forest mockup using materials from "Art from Scrap" and shells, lobster molts, and other natural items. The mockup also includes scientific monitoring tools such as quadrats, transects, and calipers for measuring organisms. The actual virtual kelp forest exhibit to be developed by Thinc Design will include digital media, high definition video, and images of real kelp forest inhabitants. The mockup will help the Thinc team create the design for



Mockup of planned OCTOS kelp forest virtual transect. Photo: Laura Francis

the real exhibit. The virtual transect will simulate an underwater kelp forest environment and will include real monitoring data collected by sanctuary and UCSB scientists. Students coming to OCTOS will be able to use scientific monitoring techniques to investigate and analyze time series data, and data from kelp forests in different parts of the sanctuary, to compare and contrast what happens during El Niño conditions, data from areas inside and outside of marine reserves, and learn about species composition from the warmer waters of Santa Barbara Island versus San Miguel Island.

From Shore To Sea Lecture Series 2009 Planning Meetings

On July 16, Julie Bursek and Tina Reed (Sanctuary Administrative Support Coordinator) met with park staff to discuss potential lecture themes for the 2009 From Shore To Sea Lecture Series. This popular lecture series, co-sponsored by the sanctuary, park, and Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, began in 2002 with the JASON XIV From Shore to Sea Expedition in the Channel Islands. Annually the lecture series draws over 1000 participants in the region. Since 2002, topics have ranged from ocean exploration, to marine resource protection, to Island restoration, to shipwrecks, to historical uses of the Channel Islands. Potential topics identified for 2009 include Channel Islands lobster

fishing history and potential designation as a sustainable fishery, global climate change, ocean acidification, and shark research in the Santa Barbara Channel. At their July meeting Advisory Council members suggested that the series also feature maritime shipping activities in the Santa Barbara Channel, the annual Chumash tomol crossing and its significance to the Chumash community, and Chumash dance and its symbolism of wildlife of the Channel Islands and Santa Barbara Channel.

Sanctuary Education Team Meets with Executive Director of Marine Exchange of Southern California

On August 13, the Advisory Council's Sanctuary Education Team (SET) met with Captain Dick McKenna (Marine Exchange of Southern California Executive Director) to learn more about the shipping industry and to discuss potential outreach strategies to help alert ship captains to the large cetaceans that migrate every summer to the Santa Barbara Channel and the sanctuary. The SET is currently conducting a needs assessment of the shipping industry and will provide recommendations to the sanctuary on potential outreach strategies to increase understanding of large cetaceans and ship strikes.

Boating Instruction and Safety Center

On August 11, Julie Bursek attended a planning meeting for the proposed Boating Instruction and Safety Center, along with partners from California State University (CSU) Channel Islands, and the County of Ventura's Channel Islands Harbor Department. The sanctuary is providing capital facilities funding support for the design and construction of sanctuary-themed exhibits that will focus on boating and marine science education. The next step is to begin work with the exhibit designer to develop conceptual designs for the new center. CSU Channel Islands will contract with a local architectural firm to define spaces needed to support potential users of the Boating Instruction and Safety Center. The new center is projected to open in 2010.

Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO)

MERITO Program Overview

The MERITO Academy program provides high quality, sustainable science programming integrating watershed and ocean science into fourth to eighth grade level public education and extended learning programs, resulting in the active contribution to ocean protection by educated

and engaged youth. The CINMS MERITO Academy is a partnership of CINMS, Channel Islands Marine Resource Institute, and The Nature Conservancy, in collaboration with a number of other organizations. The program is funded by a CINMS NOAA B-WET grant and by a grant from The Amgen Foundation. For more information about the MERITO Academy visit: www.channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/merito/programming.html.

Swimming Group Sponsors Santa Barbara 6th Graders' Sanctuary Trip

The non-profit Santa Barbara Channel Swimming Association and Big Swim 2008 Working Group successfully raised funds to provide underserved students with an opportunity to explore the sanctuary and park on September 12, aboard the *Conception*, a chartered Truth Aquatics' vessel. In collaboration with the CINMS MERITO Program, students were selected to participate in this hands-on field experience to inspire ocean literacy and instill a conservation ethic. The island adventure for the students took place during the 5th Annual Santa Barbara Channel Relay Swim, which commenced from Santa Cruz Island at midnight and arrived at Goleta Beach at 4:00 pm on September 13.

Channel Islands Naturalist Corps (CINC) Volunteer Program

Program Overview

Channel Islands Naturalist Corps (CINC) volunteers educate local school children, residents, and tourists, monitor sanctuary and park resources, and conduct research on board local whale watch vessels departing out of Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Channel Islands harbors. The field season runs from January – October capturing the presence of migrating gray whales and foraging blue and humpback whales. In addition to field interpretation and research, CINC volunteers also offer slide presentations for local schools and community groups, represent the sanctuary and park at marine-related community outreach events, and distribute outreach materials to area marine-related businesses through the Adopt-A-Business Program.

The sanctuary partners with the park to administer the CINC volunteer program. During the first year of service, CINC volunteers represent the sanctuary and park on board local whale watch vessels and educational cruises. After completion of the initial training to

become whale watch interpreters, additional training opportunities are available for volunteers to become certified to lead island hikes through the park.

CINC Program Expansion

This spring the sanctuary and park merged the park's overnight volunteer program with the CINC program. This added an additional 35 volunteers to the program and over 9,000 hours of service, for a total of 155 volunteers. All CINC volunteers, including the park volunteers joining the CINC, received a new navy blue uniform with improved agency logo placement. They will also receive additional training on CINMS, and represent the sanctuary on multi-day trips at the islands. This effort furthers the sanctuary's partnership with the park, and will provide consistent messages to visitors of the sanctuary and park.

Whale Watch Vessel Excursions

Harbor	Santa Barbara			Ventura
Vessel	<i>Conдор Express</i>	<i>Double Dolphin</i>	<i>Speedtwin</i>	<i>Island Adventure & Islander</i>
Business	Sea Landing	Santa Barbara Sailing Center	Captain Don's	Island Packers
July trips	31	2	7	8
August trips	30	0	0	7

In July and August concessionaires provided 85 whale watching excursions (48 in July and 37 in August). The number of excursions listed above for each vessel only includes those with CINC volunteers on board, and trips may have multiple naturalists aboard. (Whale watch trips on the *Double Dolphin* will resume in February, 2009 with the gray whale season, and Captain Don's is not currently running whale watch trips.)

Island Programs

In July, CINC island hike naturalists participated in 23 Island Packers trips to Santa Cruz Island's Scorpion Anchorage, and one trip to Anacapa Island aboard the *Island Adventure* and *Islander*, and nine trips to Anacapa Island aboard the *Vanguard*. In August, naturalists participated in 22 Island Packers trips to Santa Cruz Island's Scorpion Anchorage, zero trips to Anacapa Island, and six trips to Santa Rosa Island aboard the *Island Adventure* and *Islander*. In August they also

participated in nine trips to Anacapa Island aboard the *Vanguard*. In total, CINC naturalists participated in 70 July and August island hike trips.

Channel Islands Live! Dive Program

CINC volunteers provided vital support to the *Channel Islands Live!* under-water video uplink program with topside interpretation and diver support on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays throughout the summer season. The program is available live to visitors at Landing Cove on Anacapa Island and is broadcast in real time to schools to educate students and the public about kelp forest ecology and marine reserves. Thousands of island visitors and school children experienced the program during July and August. The program ended the last weekend before Labor Day.

Monthly In-Service Meetings

Monthly meetings for the CINC run from February through September on the third Tuesday of each month. The July 15 talk on the Whales of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS) was given by Emily Carlson (HIHWNMS Volunteer Programs and Outreach Coordinator). Carlson provided an overview of outreach and volunteer programs in Hawaii and discussed resource protection programs for humpback whales. On August 19, Dr. Charles Rennie gave a lecture on the Biodiversity of Santa Cruz Island. Rennie spoke about the history and geology of the Island, and covered the different plant species. In addition to professional development, CINC training meetings serve an important role in volunteer communication and scheduling, and we have an average attendance of 90-100 volunteers at the monthly meetings.

From Shore to Sea Lecture Series

Several volunteers had the opportunity to attend the recent From Shore to Sea lectures. This lecture series allows volunteers to expand their knowledge of the resources in the Santa Barbara Channel in addition to their regular in-season monthly meetings. July's lecture was on Chumash Ethnobotany with Jan Timbrook of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and August's on Investigations of the Recent Blue Whale Deaths in Central California by Paul Collins & Michelle Berman, also of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. See p. 6 for more information on the series.

Public Outreach

13th Annual Ventura County Boat Show

On July 10 -13 the sanctuary participated in the 13th Annual Ventura County Boat show at Channel Islands Harbor in Oxnard. Channel Islands Harbor is home to thousands of watercraft and enthusiasts who enjoy all types of water sports activities throughout the year. Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers provided interpretation and outreach regarding access to the Channel Islands and Marine Protected Area information to boat show participants. Over 10,000 attended the four day event.



CINC volunteers Natalie Swan & Lori Haroldsen staff the sanctuary booth at the Ventura County Boat Show in July. Photo: CINMS

Educational Exhibits Win Top Honors for Sanctuary and Partners

The sanctuary, park, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and California State Parks joined together to design a "Partners in Preservation" exhibit space at the 133rd Ventura County Fair, July 30 through August 10, 2008. With a booth theme called "Meet me at the Mountains, Ocean, and Islands," the joint exhibit won first place for the best Natural Resources and Agricultural Exhibit and Best Educational Exhibit. Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers provided information about the sanctuary and park during the 10-day event. Over 300,000 people were estimated in attendance at the Fair and over 10,000 thousand fair-goers visited the multi-agency booth.

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Refugio Jr. Lifeguard Presentations

On July 7 and August 4 Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers provided presentations to over 360 kids, ages 7 -14, enrolled in the Refugio Jr. Lifeguard program. The presentations included an overview of sanctuary and park resources with a focus on marine debris.

California State Parks Presentations

On July 12 and August 9 Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers provided hands-on campfire talks at Leo Carrillo State Park, and on August 20 and August 23 at Carpinteria State Park about marine mammals of the sanctuary and park. The talks were very popular and approximately 100 campers attended each evening presentation.

Tall Ship Festivals

On August 7-10, CINMS staff participated in the Tall Ships Festival 2008 at Channel Islands Harbor in Oxnard, California. The event attracted over 6,000 people and the sanctuary booth included a centerpiece about the Maritime Heritage Program, a tall ship matching activity, and a nautical chart activity. Sanctuary staff and volunteers also hosted interactive booths at the Port of Los Angeles, San Pedro Festival of Sail (August 15-17) and the San Diego Festival of Sail (August 21-24). For more detail on the San Diego Festival please see the report under Maritime Heritage.



CINC volunteer Sandra Squires provides sanctuary information to visitors at the San Diego Festival of Sail. Photo: Robert Schwemmer.

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteer Field Report: July 16, 2008

Last night, at 8 p.m., I gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Marine Mammals of Our CINMS & CINP" in the outside amphitheater of Leo Carrillo State Park. Leo Carrillo is near the beach off the Pacific Coast Hwy, just south of the border between Los Angeles and Ventura counties. When I started the presentation, I counted over 50 attending. By the time I finished the presentation at 9 p.m., attendance had easily doubled. I did two of these presentations at Carpinteria State Beach last summer, and in August two more were scheduled there, along with one more at Leo Carrillo.

Attending crowds are in large part young kids, dragging along their parents. However, last night a lot of young adults attended as well. The interest and questions are amazing. The presentation is a composite of 50 slides from the Sanctuary and Park collection, and from the Sanctuary Advisory Council's Sanctuary Education Team presentation, "The CINMS A to Z." It starts with the blue whales, including a discussion focusing on last year's sightings in reference to the shipping lanes. The presentation ends with the short video about the Chumash community's annual tomol crossing. This last point lends itself to a whole new topic, as each State Beach where these presentations are scheduled was originally a Chumash village site, with a view of at least one of the Channel Islands.

During the presentation I use a whale kit, with the krill and baleen referred to at appropriate times, and at the end I invite the audience to come up front to get an up close look and feel. I also provide Sanctuary and Park brochures and information about whale watching and accessing the Channel Islands. The interest at the end is very enthusiastic, with a lot of questions afloat!

- Paul Petrich
Channel Islands Naturalist Corps `2006

Adopt a Business Program

The Adopt-A-Business Program provides sanctuary information to area businesses that provide services to Channel Islands recreational users. Approximately a dozen CINC volunteers deliver *Protecting your Channel Islands* brochures to about 80 Ventura and Santa Barbara area marine-related businesses on an on-going basis. This method effectively places the marine reserve and sanctuary maps into the hands of fishers and other users.

MARITIME HERITAGE PROGRAM

Education and Outreach

Robert Schwemmer (Sanctuary Maritime Heritage Coordinator) gave a presentation at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum on the technology applied by west coast national marine sanctuaries to conduct underwater archaeology surveys at a luncheon for 130 supervisors and managers from the City of Santa Barbara government. The emphasis of the presentation focused on archaeological surveys conducted at CINMS working in partnership with federal and state agencies, and the local community, and also included recent expeditions

conducted in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Chris Mobley (Sanctuary Superintendent) also attended the luncheon in order to sustain good working relations and communications with city and harbor supervisors and managers, and to introduce Schwemmer.

West Coast Region

Schwemmer authored an article for *Sea History* magazine (No. 124, autumn 2008), a publication of the National Maritime Historical Society. The article discusses the collaborative efforts between the ONMS West Coast Region, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Parks and Recreation, and the local community to identify a mystery shipwreck uncovered in the state of Oregon. Earlier in the year a number of beaches along the Oregon coast stretching between Cannon Beach and Bandon experienced a greater degree of sand erosion than normal, brought on by winter storm waves. Over the course of two and half months, the sand continued to move offshore, exposing a shipwreck on the North Spit of Coos Bay, once concealed below 30 feet of sand. At the request of Bill Douros (ONMS West Coast Region Superintendent), Schwemmer provided research that ultimately led to identifying the mystery shipwreck as the steam schooner *George L. Olson*. A similar article also authored by Schwemmer was recently published in the Oregon Coast magazine. For more information visit:



<http://www.seahistory.org/html/home.htm>.

National Maritime Heritage Program



The tall ship *Gloria* participated in west coast tall ship festivals this summer. Photo: Robert Schwemmer.

Schwemmer along with CINC volunteer Sandra Squires attended the 2008 Festival of Sail in San Diego, hosted by the Maritime Museum of San Diego, where the embarcadero was transformed into a nautical theme park. More than twenty tall ships and watercraft from around the world were in attendance and it was estimated that 400,000 people attended the five-day event. The ONMS booth was strategically located between the two Class A visiting tall ships, U.S. Coast Guard bark *Eagle* and Colombia's bark *Gloria*, along with partners from the museum, American Sail Training Association (AST), and National Park Service (NPS).

On behalf of the ONMS, Schwemmer presented photographs to the captains of the *Eagle* and *Gloria* that captured their ships under sail during the event. Outreach products produced for this event offered the public the opportunity to test their knowledge about the parts of a ship and vessel rigging. The ONMS maritime heritage program booth included a large backdrop of the whaling shipwreck *Pearl* and scenes from CINMS. This provided a great opportunity to showcase to the public examples of underwater archaeological work being conducted in the Channel Islands at the site of the historic British bark *Goldenhorn* (similar rig to the *Eagle* and *Gloria*), and the recent discovery of the British whaling shipwreck *Gledstanes* at Kure Atoll in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. There was also a great deal of interest from the public in visiting the Channel Islands, in what natural and historic resources they would encounter during their visit, and in

CHANNEL ISLANDS: STORIES FROM THE PAST

There she blows! Looking back 173 years ago in the Santa Barbara Channel!

“This being the spring season, San Pedro, as well as all the other open ports upon the coast, was filled with whales, that had come in to make their annual visit upon soundings. For the first few days that we were here and at Santa Barbara, we watched them with great interest – calling out “there she blows!” every time we saw the spout of one, breaking the surface of the water; but they soon became so common that we took little notice of them. They often “broke” very near us, and on thick, foggy night, during a dead calm, while I was standing anchor-watch, one of them rose so near, that he struck our cable, and made all surge again. He did not seem to like the encounter much himself, for he sheered off, and spouted a good distance. We once came very near running one down in the gig, and should probably have been knocked to pieces and blown skyhigh. We had been on board the little Spanish brig, which was high and dry up the creek, and were returning, stretching out well at our oars, the little boat going like a swallow; our back were forward, (as is always the case in pulling,) and the captain, who was steering, was not looking ahead, when, back water, for your lives!” shouted the captain; and we backed our blades in the water and brought the boat to in a smother foam. Turning our heads, we saw a great, rough, hump-backed whale, slowly crossing our fore foot, within three or four yards of the boat’s stem. Had we not backed water just as we did, we should inevitably have gone smash upon him, striking him with our stem just about amidships. He took no notice of us, but passed slowly on, and dived a few yards beyond us, throwing his tail high in the air. He was so near that we had a perfect view of him, and, as may be supposed, had no desire to see him nearer. He was a disgusting creature; with a sink rough, hairy, and of an iron-grey color. This kind differs much from the sperm, in color and skin, and is said to be fiercer. We saw a few sperm whales; but most of the whales that come upon the coast are fin-backs, hump-backs, and right-whales, which are more difficult to take, and are said not to give oil enough to pay for the trouble. For this reason, whale-ships do not come upon the coast after them.”

- Richard Henry Dana Jr. 1835, *Two Years Before The Mast*

the sanctuary’s role in protecting these resources. Schwemmer also had the opportunity to meet with representatives from the museum, NPS and AST to discuss the museum’s plans to build a replica ship *San Salvador* to highlight Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo’s exploration in the region in 1542 that included the Channel Islands.



U.S. Coast Guard tall ship *Eagle* and patrol boat at the Port of Los Angeles Festival of Sail.
Photo: Robert Schwemmer.

For more information on the shipwrecks discussed above, please visit the following web sites.

Shipwreck *Goldenhorn*

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/shipwreck/dbase/cinms/goldenhorn.html>

Whaling Shipwreck *Gledstanes* Discovery

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2008/20080815_whaleship.html

***San Salvador* Reconstruction**

http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/sccbb/0709bb/0709Board11_San_Salvador.pdf

WEB SITE (<http://channelislands.noaa.gov>)

Recent Updates

Visit the web pages listed below to see recently updated sections of the CINMS web site.

The Blue Whale Ship Strike web page has been expanded to include current information as well as maps of current whale sightings at:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/alert.html>.

The From Shore to Sea lecture series flyer has been updated and is available for download at:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/calendar.html>.

The MERITO Academy Educators Workshop information has been posted to the Education section of the website, the news ticker, and the dropdown menu

located off the homepage at:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/merito/profdev.html>.

The Marine Mammals Sightings database administrative interface has been completed. This is a password-protected section of the database that allows CINMS staff to run queries and correct mistakes.

Don't forget to check out our calendar of events and 'what's new' pages to find out what's happening locally:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/calendar.html>, and

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/wnew.html>.

Upcoming Modifications

We are currently in the design and programming phase for the West Coast Regional Shipwreck Database, and will be expanding the Blue Whale / Ship Strike page to offer education and outreach information.

Please take a few moments to view the site. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Comments and suggestions can be sent to amy.cale@noaa.gov.



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) AND OFFICE OF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES (ONMS) NEWS



Soft Launch of the ONMS Searchable Media Library

The ONMS has conducted a soft launch of its new online, multi-media library, where users can download high-resolution ocean-related still images and video. The National Marine Sanctuaries Media Library (<http://marinelife.noaa.gov>) gives the public access to materials from hundreds of NOAA scientists, educators, divers, and archaeologists who are in the field capturing their work using still and video cameras every day. This online vault contains a comprehensive, secure, searchable, downloadable collection of select video clips and still images from all 13 of the national marine sanctuaries, and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. This project is part of a continuing NOAA effort to enhance public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the marine environment. The new media library is intended as a resource for numerous audiences, including school children, educators, publishers, conservation

organizations and individuals looking for compelling marine-related images.

National Marine Sanctuaries Highlighted in *Scuba Diving* Magazine Monthly Feature

From sea to shining sea, the areas set aside for preservation by the ONMS are a treasure trove of unique underwater ecosystems and historic artifacts. Each month, *Scuba Diving* magazine highlights one of these great backyard diving destinations and tells readers what it takes to dive them. A guide that highlights the ten national marine sanctuaries that are open to divers is also available as a PDF at:

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/visit/diving.html>. *Scuba Diving's* new segment on diving the national marine sanctuaries will arrive in installments each month from August 2008 – May 2009.

THREE-MONTH CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER	
Sept. 19	<i>Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting</i> Casa Las Palmas (323 E. Cabrillo Blvd. in Santa Barbara) An agenda, directions and more information will be posted at: channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html
Sep. 20	<i>24th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day</i> CINMS sponsored beaches: Santa Barbara – Chase Palm Park Beach / Ventura – Emma Wood State Beach For general information about this event please visit: http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html
Sep. 26-27	MERITO Academy Educators Workshop For details please visit: http://channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/merito/profdev.html
OCTOBER	
Oct. 5	<i>Santa Barbara Zoo Fox Festival.</i> For more information visit: http://www.santabarbarazoo.org/events.asp
Oct. 11	<i>Santa Barbara Harbor and Seafood Festival</i> 10:00 am to 5:00 pm For more information: http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Visitor/Things/Waterfront/Harbor_And_Seafood_Festival.htm
Oct. 14-15	<i>From Shore to Sea Lecture Series:</i> Ian Taniguchi, California Department of Fish and Game <i>Red Abalone at San Miguel Island</i> Tuesday: 7:00 pm Santa Barbara Maritime Museum (113 Harbor Way in Santa Barbara) Wednesday: 7:00 pm Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center (1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura)
Oct. 22-23	<i>Santa Barbara Ocean Film Festival</i> 7:00 pm (doors open) to 10:00 pm Marjorie Luke Theatre, Santa Barbara For more information please visit: http://www.ocean.com/index.asp?LocationID=311&CatId=311
NOVEMBER	
Nov. 11, 12	<i>From Shore to Sea Lecture Series:</i> (Speaker and Topic To Be Announced) Tuesday: 7:00 pm Santa Barbara Maritime Museum (113 Harbor Way in Santa Barbara) Wednesday: 7:00 pm Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center (1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura)
Nov. 15	<i>Gold Coast Science Network, "A Taste of Science" Conference for K-12 Science Educators</i> Oxnard College, Oxnard For more information visit: http://members.aol.com/ht_a/gcsn98/main.htm
Nov. 15	<i>NOAA and Our Planet Day</i> Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach For more information visit: http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/newsevents/eventsdetail/noaa_and_our_planet_day/
Nov. 18	<i>Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteer Orientation</i> Channel Islands National Park, 1901 Spinnaker Drive, Ventura For more information visit: http://channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/edu_sessions.html
Nov. 14	<i>Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting</i> Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center (1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura) An agenda, directions and more information will be posted at: channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html

CINMS Staff

Santa Barbara Harbor Office

Christopher Mobley *Superintendent*

Todd Jacobs *Deputy Superintendent*

Michael Murray *Deputy Superintendent,
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LTJG Matt Davis – *Operations Officer*

Steve Dyer – *Vessel Captain*

Laura Francis – *Education Coordinator*

Sean Hastings – *Resource Protection Coordinator*

Steve Katz – *Research Coordinator*

Sarah Kinsfather – *Management Plan Specialist*

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Dani Lipski – *Research Specialist*

Bill MacDuffee – *Vessel Captain*

Robert Schwemmer – *Regional Maritime Heritage Coordinator*

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Local NMSP Staff

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Sarah Marquis – *West Coast Media Coordinator*

Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary Foundation

Kelly Darnell – *Acting Executive Director*

Learn More About Your Sanctuary

The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary produces the Sanctuary Superintendent's Report in conjunction with bi-monthly Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. To learn more about the sanctuary please visit our web site at: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/main.html>.

The National Marine Sanctuary Program

The National Marine Sanctuary System consists of 14 marine protected areas that encompass more than 150,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The system includes 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The NMSP, which manages the system, was established under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act of 1972. Visit the NMSP web site at:

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>.

Channel Islands National Park

To learn about Channel Islands National Park visit their web site at: <http://www.nps.gov/chis/homepage.htm>.

GET INVOLVED AND STAY INFORMED!

To learn how to get involved in the sanctuary visit:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/involved.html>

Sign up for the CINMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming sanctuary events, and public meetings of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and its working groups:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/list.html>

- CONTACT INFORMATION -

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